

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the above amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

A copy of the PTO-1449 form corresponding to the information disclosure statement and documents originally submitted on 5/14/01 is attached to this response. The Examiner is requested to initial and date the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record in this case.

Claims 1-5, 12-19, 34-45 and 47-49 remain in this application. Claims 6-11, 20-33 and 46 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 12-19, 40, 48 and 49 have been withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to the specification. Antecedent basis for a multi-tap selectable weight blending filter may be found in the specification in at least the following places: at page 3, lines 19 et seq.; page 40, lines 14 et seq. and in at least FIGURES 11, 14 and 16.

The rejection of claims 1- 11, 20-39 and 41-47 as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) by U.S. Patent 6,496,187 to Deering et al. is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons:

Claims 6-11, 20-33 and 46 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Independent claim 1 as amended recites rendering a multisampled data representation including performing edge and z rasterization of primitives within the image and further includes "generating a coverage mask corresponding to a plurality of adjacent pixels, the coverage mask identifying super-samples that are covered by a primitive fragment during rasterization; and performing z buffering for each super-sample based upon the coverage mask". Deering et al. ("187) does not disclose using a coverage mask identifying super-samples that are covered by a primitive fragment during rasterization. Consequently, Deering et al. ("187) does not anticipate claim 1 because it

Leather et al
Serial No. 09/726,226

does not disclose every element of the claimed invention. See *Lewmar Marine, Inc. v. Barient, Inc.*, 3 U.S.P.Q. 2d 1766 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Independent claim 34 as amended recites "coverage mask means to enable/disable samples corresponding to said sample locations, the coverage mask means being based at least in part on corresponding portions of each pixel that are occupied by rendered primitive fragments" and "means for performing z buffering for each super-sample based on the coverage mask". Deering et al. ("187) does not disclose a coverage mask means being based at least in part on corresponding portions of each pixel that are occupied by rendered primitive fragments or a means for performing z buffering for each super-sample based on the coverage mask.. Consequently, Deering et al. ("187) does not anticipate claim 34 because it does not disclose every element of the claimed invention.

Independent claim 38 as amended recites "defining three super-sampled color data locations associated with a pixel for each of a plurality of neighboring pixels" and "blending color data corresponding to each of the three super-sampled color data locations within a first pixel with color data from two super-sampled color locations of a second pixel located immediately above said first pixel and with color data from two super-sampled color locations of a third pixel located immediately below said first pixel". Deering et al. ("187) does not disclose defining three super-sampled color data locations associated with a pixel and blending color data corresponding to each of the three super-sampled color data locations with color data from two super-sampled color locations of pixels located immediately above and immediately below that pixel as set forth in claim 38. Consequently, Deering et al. ("187) does not anticipate claim 34 because it does not disclose every element of the claimed invention.

Independent claim 41 as amended recites "a pixel data processing arrangement having a programmable selectable-weight blending filter characterized by a vertically-disposed three-pixel filter support region wherein at least two color data samples from three vertically disposed pixels are blended to form a single pixel color." Likewise, independent claim 42 recites a "programmable selectable-weight blending filter coupled to scan-line buffers, the blending filter characterized by a vertically-disposed three-pixel

Leather et al
Serial No. 09/726,226

filter support region wherein one or more color data samples are programmably weighted and selected from different positions within three vertically aligned neighboring pixels". Antecedent basis for the selectable-weight vertical blending filter set forth in these claims may be found in at least the following portions of the specification: page 42, line 27 through page 43, line 1; page 43, lines 13-17; and FIGURES 7-12; and FIGURE 14. Applicant respectfully contends that since Deering et al. ("187) does not disclose a programmable vertical blending filter arrangement as set forth in these claims, Deering et al. ("187) does not anticipate claims 41 or 42.

Independent claim 44 as amended recites a "one-dimensional color data blending filter that blends the three super-sample color values of a pixel with super-sample color values from vertically adjacent neighboring pixels while information within the embedded frame buffer is being transferred to an external frame buffer". Deering et al. ("187) does not disclose a filter that blends the claimed arrangement of super-sample color values from vertically adjacent neighboring pixels or performing the blending while the data is being transferred to an external frame buffer as set forth in claim 44. Consequently, applicant respectfully contends that Deering et al. ("187) also does not anticipate claim 44 because it does not disclose every element of the claimed invention.


Likewise, applicant contends that the remaining dependent claims are not anticipated by Deering et al. ("187) for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to the independent claims.

In view of the applicant's foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application are respectfully solicited. If any small matter remains outstanding, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below or on the following page.

Leather et al
Serial No. 09/726,226

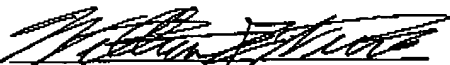
Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
William G. Niessen
Reg. No. 29,683

WGN:
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

I hereby certify that this Amendment and Transmittal Cover sheet is being facsimile transmitted for official filing to the Patent and Trademark Office on September 15, 2003, and specifically to TC2600 at 703-872 -9314.


William G. Niessen
Reg. 29, 683

September 15, 2003
date

No. of pages transmitted: 15 pages